

MELANCHOLY DAYS ARE COME, SADDEST FOR CITY BEGGARS

Hard Times for Mendicant Army, Due to the Police. Jimmy Connors in Correction, "Slats" Despondent, "Shoestring Mary" Gone.

Hard times have befallen the beggar and the profession is not what it used to be. Men who once "made" \$5 to \$8 a day have been either driven from the streets or are serving sentences in the House of Correction.

Even Jimmy Connors, who was the life of a saloon near Eighth and Callowhill streets, is in the House of Correction, and what grieves James most is that he cannot get out, although he hired two lawyers to accomplish the object.

James got out of the "Correction" twice, just for brief breathing spells, while his attorneys argued writs in the courts, but each time James was returned. He is mourned by his valet and his companions. Yes—James, the beggar, has a valet.

In some manner Connors lost both his arms. It happened when he was a child and he does not know exactly how the accident occurred, but it was a lucky accident, he thinks, for since then James has not worked. He had a valet and the funds to keep more or less in state of drunkenness.

Connors is only one of nearly 300 beggars who in the last few months have been driven from the streets or sent to the House of Correction. He it was who openly boasted that he never had been locked up for more than an hour or so. He always had an attorney whom he paid to keep him out of jail. The attorney, generally one who could draw a pathetic picture of Connors' condition, believed him when he was arraigned in court, but Connors afterward boasted to William von Bover, an agent for the Philadelphia Society for Organized Charity, that he would not change positions with a man who was whole.

WHERE CONNORS RULED HIS KIND. Near Eighth and Callowhill streets is a barroom. It is dirty and dingy, but it harbors the men who never work. Here they assemble to drink "seats," a five-cent whiskey, when times are bad; to drink a better grade of whiskey when fortune is more kind. Times are now hard—never were worse.

It is here that James Connors met his cronies. It was here he carried the tin box which he hawked about the city, "working" hours into which money flowed from charitably inclined persons. James would empty the box on the bar, and he and his companions would drink until they were dizzy. They would not stop until the money from kind hearts had gone in a debauch.

Then James would mark an unsteady course toward his room on Callowhill street, accompanied by his man. The man would undress Connors and see him safely in bed. If Connors happened to be in that frame of mind that he did not remember or care how much money he had, the man would return to the saloon. If Connors was peevish and could remember to a nickel how much he had in the box fastened about his neck, the man would return to the saloon. If Connors was peevish and could remember to a nickel how much he had in the box fastened about his neck, the man would return to the saloon.

JIMMY'S FRIEND "SLATS." "Slats" is a personal friend, even when he is sober, of Jimmy Connors. When he is drunk he is even more of a friend of Connors.

On any night you please, but cops ain't no good, cops are worse, and Philly is going to the dogs. "Slats" is an exasperated manner. "Slats" gazed mournfully into the empty whiskey glass before him. He then looked toward his friend, who was at a nod from the man he was conversing with "Slats" rapped the glass on the bar and he was refilled. He brightened perceptibly after two or three drinks and an optimistic mood prophesied that Jimmy would soon be out of the "Correction" and the police would soon forget their animosity to the men who do not labor.

INQUISITIVE PITTSBURGER. A few weeks ago the Society for Organized Charity received a telephone message from a young man. He said that he would like to make a call at the society's rooms if he was sure that he would not be arrested. He was guaranteed immunity if he visited the rooms. A day later a well-dressed young man entered the office and introduced himself. He gave a fictitious name at first and later said that he was known as Myers and was from Pittsburgh. He lost a foot and a hand through falling from a fruit cart.

He was perturbed by the crusade made against beggars. He wanted to know just what the object of the crusade was and how long it would last. At first he was not taken for a beggar, but he did not keep von Bover in ignorance long. "I am from Pittsburgh. My people live two miles. I have been in Philadelphia for long this time. I want to know just how the police intend to keep the beggars out of the city. I had expected to make Philadelphia my home, but I questioned, Myers of the city, my never worked. When a boy he had learned stenography. He could take dictation and was fairly fast at shorthand. von Bover listened to Myers, and then offered to get him a position if he would stop begging.

Then Myers said that he had a few habits that would make steady employment something of a hardship. He drank whiskey and to a certain extent he used morphine. He did not want work; he just desired no police interference with his plans.

He was informed that such assurance could not be given to him. Myers thanked said that he would leave town. As he has avoided arrest here, it is believed that he kept his word.

When the police began to arrest the opponents of work, the city, the scene of endeavor to West Philadelphia and Germantown, although they continued to live in the Tenderloin. In West Philadelphia they became so numerous that the West Philadelphia Business League took up the matter with the police. Poor arrests were made, but the league, were warned to leave, and they heeded the warnings.



SISTERS OF MERCY AND RED CROSS NURSES ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS VALIANT BELGIAN. Belgian and German men of every race and creed, who bear the wounds of their service on the field of battle, have reason to thank the capable hands that have healed their wounds and given them a new lease on life.

Philadelphia, hoping to play her trade without incitation. The West Philadelphia business men appointed one of their number to investigate the case, as she had won much sympathy as a widow with a baby to support. She was followed to a room in Ninth street, near Vine. Mary was seen to give the alms she had collected to a man, who was six feet tall and who at one time was a horseherd. He is her husband and has not worked for years.

Mary gave up her baby and she and her husband disappeared.

BLIND MENDICANTS. Blind beggars are still giving the police trouble. They refuse to go into institutions, for they say that they like family life and their homes will be broken up if they are driven from the streets.

More than 30 blind mendicants have been forced to stop begging. David Kline, who formerly played a small organ at the corner of Fifth and South streets, is trying to get out of the House of Correction upon a writ of habeas corpus. Judge Carr has the writ under consideration, but has handed down no decision.

In the House of Correction is the blind and armless man who for years stood on Market street in front of the nonstop. He had a little house on Spring street near Eleventh. This was presided over by a colored woman who posed as his wife. The rows between the cripple and his black helpmate kept Spring street in good humor for years.

The colored woman once in a while would catch her helpmate so stupefied that he could not help himself. She would search his pockets for money and quickly transfer it to a Tenderloin saloon.

She would drink as much as possible and then leave as many dollars as she had with the bartender as a drawing account.

When her husband would awake and find that he had been robbed he would hunt up his black partner. If her brain was not too befuddled she would leave home for several days until many things were forgotten. If she did not leave her husband would fight with her until she was a wreck. He had no arms, but in prize ring parlance he had a punch in either foot.

The days of the "parties" in Spring street are gone. The armless and blind man is the House of Correction for three months. His wife has disappeared. In the picturesque language of the Tenderloin, the woman "peddled" out the house, leaving her husband to fend for himself. She would be easily away for many long days. She spent the money she received for the furniture on whiskey, and when the money was gone, she also disappeared.

There are but few of the beggars on the street today. The action of the police and charitable organization has made the life of the beggar a "hardship." About 12,000 children will participate in the contest, the object of which is to encourage them to avoid dangers of all kinds.

WANTS \$50,000 FOR GIRL'S FOOT. Amputation Follows Loss Under Trolley Car. A 15-year-old girl, the daughter of a German, is valued at \$50,000 in a suit filed in the Supreme Court by Philip J. O'Keefe, of Camden. He has started the action against the Public Service Railway Company for injuries suffered by his daughter, Catherine, who was killed by a trolley car on August 25 last, and that her foot was so badly crushed that it had to be amputated. The company is charged with negligence.

PROMINENT FIREMAN DIES. Frank P. Stott, Assistant Chief at Coatesville, Typhoid Victim. COATESVILLE, Pa., Sept. 15.—Frank P. Stott, assistant chief of the Washington Hose Company, and a very prominent fireman, died from typhoid fever this morning.

He was a son of the late John A. Stott, who at his death was prominently connected with the building of the new Capitol at Harrisburg. This is the second victim of typhoid in two weeks.

PRIZE-WINNING BABIES UNDERGO MENTAL TESTS

Additional Point in Examination at Woman's Hospital. Prizes for "infant efficiency" were awarded today during a baby show at the Woman's Hospital, and College avenue. It was the first competition in which mental ability has been made part of the tests for prize-winning babies.

Children six months old should be able to follow bright objects with their eyes and show interest in silver dollars held before them, according to physicians at the hospital. Only those who passed this test figured as prize-winners today.

Standards for infant efficiency for older children figured in all competitions. John Mullin, 10 months old, son of Mrs. Lillian Mullin, was a first prize winner in his class. He was able to say "Daddy" and "Mama," and showed considerable interest in toys placed before him.

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\$100,000 STEAMSHIP, GRIPPED BY SHOALS MAY REACH SAFETY

Prospects Brighten of Rescuing the Atlantic City From Threatened Destruction. ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 15.—Prospects for saving the \$100,000 steamship Atlantic City from the treacherous grip of the Inlet shoals which wrecked two sister vessels of the Atlantic City Navigation Company and sent the line into bankruptcy were brightened today, when it was found that during the night the liner, under its own power, had materially improved its position. Only a short space of sandy ledge now separates the Atlantic City from deep water and line officials are confident the craft will float on the next high water, probably about 3 o'clock, this afternoon.

Edward L. Foster, treasurer of the Union Trust Company, Washington, Pa., one of the passengers taken from the Atlantic City yesterday, made positive denial of sensational reports that passengers were lashed to the rails and to the must when the Atlantic City first struck in a violent northeaster on Sunday, or that Captain Townsend, the veteran skipper, refused at any time to set the passengers ashore after the stranding.

"He simply convinced us that it would be a foolish thing to attempt to so ashore in the midst of the gale on Sunday when the ship was perfectly safe," the Pennsylvanian said.

Captain Townsend remained on his bridge continuously until noon yesterday when weakened by hunger and exhaustion.

London Stock Exchange FIXES SECURITY PRICES. Name Official Quotations at Which All Sales Must Be Made.

LONDON, Sept. 15.—The Stock Exchange Committee today fixed prices for nearly 100 British, Indian and Colonial gilt-edged securities and other trustee securities. Sales below the established prices are forbidden. Transactions must be for cash. Options and time bargains will not be allowed in the securities for which quotations have been fixed officially.

Dealers were ordered to clear sales from brokers to buyers before selling from their own books. The committee urges members to make up stock wherever possible.

FILM SHIPPING CONCESSION. Old Containers May Be Used Until March 1, 1915. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Shippers of moving picture films today received a concession from the Interstate Commerce Commission. It was announced that inasmuch as it appears that some of the larger shippers of moving picture films have on hand a large quantity of containers for such shipments by express, which conform to the commission's regulations governing the transportation of such articles by express, but which do not conform to the regulations which were to become effective October 1, the commission has granted the following extension of time on paragraph 42 of the regulations for the transportation of explosives and other dangerous articles by three cases, made of fibre not less than 3/8 of an inch in thickness, reinforced by metal at the corners, purchased prior to October 1, 1914, may be used until March 1, 1915, for the shipment of moving picture films enclosed in interior spark-proof metal cases.

ANOTHER COBB SPEEDY. Harry, No Relative of "Ty," Springs Away From Sheriff. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Police of Washington and Sheriff C. M. Walters, of Raleigh, N. C., are searching today for Harry Cobb, light of foot but no waiter, as far as known, of "Ty" Cobb, noted for his base stealing in the American Baseball League. The Sheriff brought Cobb as his prisoner from Massachusetts and left him for a moment in the waiting room at the Union Station. When he returned Cobb had sprang away. Cobb turned Cobb had the following explanation: "I was too tired to tell the charge against Cobb."

MRS. RACHEL W. D. SEE. Mrs. Rachel W. D. See, a former member of the school board and a woman of Democratic faith, died from complications at St. Joseph's Hospital. He had been ill for a week and failed to survive an operation.

Major Dies in Trenton—Body Will Be Brought Here. The body of Clement Major, 47 years old, of 327 Richmond street, Philadelphia, who died in the Mercer Hospital, Trenton, yesterday, as the result of injuries which he suffered in attempting to stop a runaway and save a child's life, will be brought to this city tomorrow. It will be received by his sister, Mrs. Anna Webster, with whom he had been residing since he was a member of the Philadelphia Varsity Football team.

Major stopped the runaway and saved the child's life near Drexelton, Bucks County. The horse, attached to a heavy wagon, in which was a little girl, was running wild, and as they came dashing down the road Major, who was walking in the opposite direction, ran forward and stopped them. Major was struck by the wagon shaft and injured internally.

Deaths

ALDEN.—On September 12, 1914, MARY ALDEN, wife of John P. Alden, died at her home, 1000 N. 10th street, at 10:30 a. m. Burial at West Laurel Hill Cemetery.

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